

Nov 23^d
am 9-1

It is a very rare plant?

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS

Santa Cruz Cal.
Nov 15th 1880

Dr Geo. Engelman
Dear Sir

I sent you
today by mail a plant
of the Cacti family which
I would be glad to have you
tell me what it is. The plant
I sent you is a part of
a large one which I
slipped about 6 months
ago. It was the top cut
or piece of a plant that
was seven feet high and
the only crook in the
whole trunk was on the
piece I sent you. The
six feet below it is as



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straight as an arrow
and makes the best
stock for grafting the
epiphyllum that exists
this plant came from
the neighborhood of Panama
a few years ago - but by
whom brought I don't
know I own the whole
stock and think it invaluable
for grafting ^{the} cactys I have
never seen or heard of it
any where else I at first
thought it a pereskia
- its trunk somewhat
resembles that - also the
leaf & little observation
convinced me that it
was not Pereskia I think
now that it is a *Rhipsalis*
or *Opuntia* probably the
latter the leaves when they



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first make their appearance resemble the
Rhipsalis and Opuntia but
the trunk and young shoots
resemble the Pereskia
~~but~~ unlike the latter
however the leaves
take root like slips
The trunk after it gets
ripe is very unlike a
cactus as you will see
A trunk $\frac{3}{4}$ in in diameter
would have a ^{or pith} core of $\frac{1}{2}$
inch - the wood would be
 $\frac{1}{8}$ in in diameter and the
bark would be an eighth
notwithstanding this small
amount of wood you will
see that it is very strong
and rigid The plant I
send you I packed with
some corn and hope it



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will reach you in good
order with the leaves
intact Owing to the neglect
of the party in charge of
them they suffered from want
of water and all lost their
leaves except the one I
send you hence I have
to send it to you to show
you what the leaves are otherwise
I might have sent you a better
plant I have searched all of the
U.S. Survey including yours
in Arizona New Mexico &c
but find nothing like it
Please accept this plant
and if you can, give me its
name ~~is~~ Yours Truly

J. H. Logau
Santa Cruz Cal



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Nov 20 18

Santa Cruz Cal
Dec 15 1880

Dr Geo Engelmann
Dear Sir

Yours at
hand I have the *Pereskia*
aculeata have used it
for years for grafting But
the Cactus I send you is not
the *P. aculeata* as you will
see when it begins to grow
The young leaves when
starting are like the *Opuntia*
but as they become older they
resemble the *Pereskia* more
This plant can be propagated
by the leaves; the *Pereskia*
cannot be I think as stock
for grafting it is far superior
to *Pereskia* I hope the
one I sent will grow
and that you will



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then be able to tell me
what it is

Yours Truly
J. H. Sargent
Santa Cruz
Cal

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